

MEMORANDUM

TO: Cape Elizabeth Conservation Commission
FROM: Maureen O'Meara, Town Planner
DATE: December 6, 2012
SUBJECT: Great Pond Boat Racks 2012 Season Report

Introduction

2012 is the third year of boat rack storage at Great Pond managed by the Town of Cape Elizabeth. The Boat Rack Program is operated on land owned by the Sprague Corporation in accordance with the terms of the easement granted to the Town of Cape Elizabeth. Below is a summary of this season's highlights.

Boat Permit Issuance

This is the second year that permits have been issued using a lottery system. Applications were solicited with articles in the Cape Courier and the town website, and letters were mailed to last year's recipients. Sixty-two permit applications were submitted by the March 23, 2012 deadline. The lottery drawing was conducted on March 26th. Four boat rack slots are limited to kayaks due to their size, so four applications were drawn from the kayak owners. From all remaining applications, twenty-eight applications were drawn. All applicants were notified by email or phone. Two of the original drawing applicants chose not to pick up their permit by the April 2nd deadline and an additional 2 applications were drawn from the original pool.

Periodic inspections

Town staff made periodic inspections of the boat racks to keep records of usage and to inspect for activity not allowed by the Sprague Corporation easement. (See attached permit spreadsheet) Three boats that were stored off the racks without a permit were removed by the Department of Public Works.

Conclusion

No changes to the program are recommended. Although there were many applicants who did not receive a permit, there were almost no complaints about the lottery system. Again this year, it is likely that some folks are "padding" the odds of obtaining a permit by submitting applications under the names of friends and family members. All permit holders used the boat racks to store a boat. There were no reports of vandalism this year. Almost all boats were

removed by the December 2nd deadline, following reminder letters and calls by town staff.